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ABSTRACT

This is the seventh analysis of the percentages of pupils aged 5 to 15 in special schools and the percentages of pupils aged 5 to 15 with statements in special schools. The analysis is based on the official Department for Education and Skills data of indicators for England. Findings indicate the national percentage of 5- to 15-year-old pupils in special schools across England's 149 local education authorities (LEAs) fell from 1.39% (88,793 pupils) in 1997 to 1.32% (86,942 pupils) in 2001, continuing a trend of nearly 20 years. This reduction in segregation occurred despite a rising total school population. There were, however, still wide variations across all LEAs. In 2001, the London Borough of Newham had the smallest percentage of pupils in special schools with 0.35%, and Manchester had the highest with 2.64%. The six LEAs with the smallest percentage were Newham, Rutland, Barnsley, Calderdale and Cumbria, and Nottinghamshire. Of the 98 LEAs providing comparable data for 1997 and 2001, 41 LEAs showed a disturbing rise in their percentages of pupils placed in special schools. Finally, the national percentage of pupils with statements in special schools fell from 41.09% in 1997 to 36.24% in 2001, also continuing a trend started nearly 20 years ago. (CR)

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LEA inclusion trends in England 1997–2001

Statistics on special school placements & pupils with statements in special schools

BRAHM NORWICH

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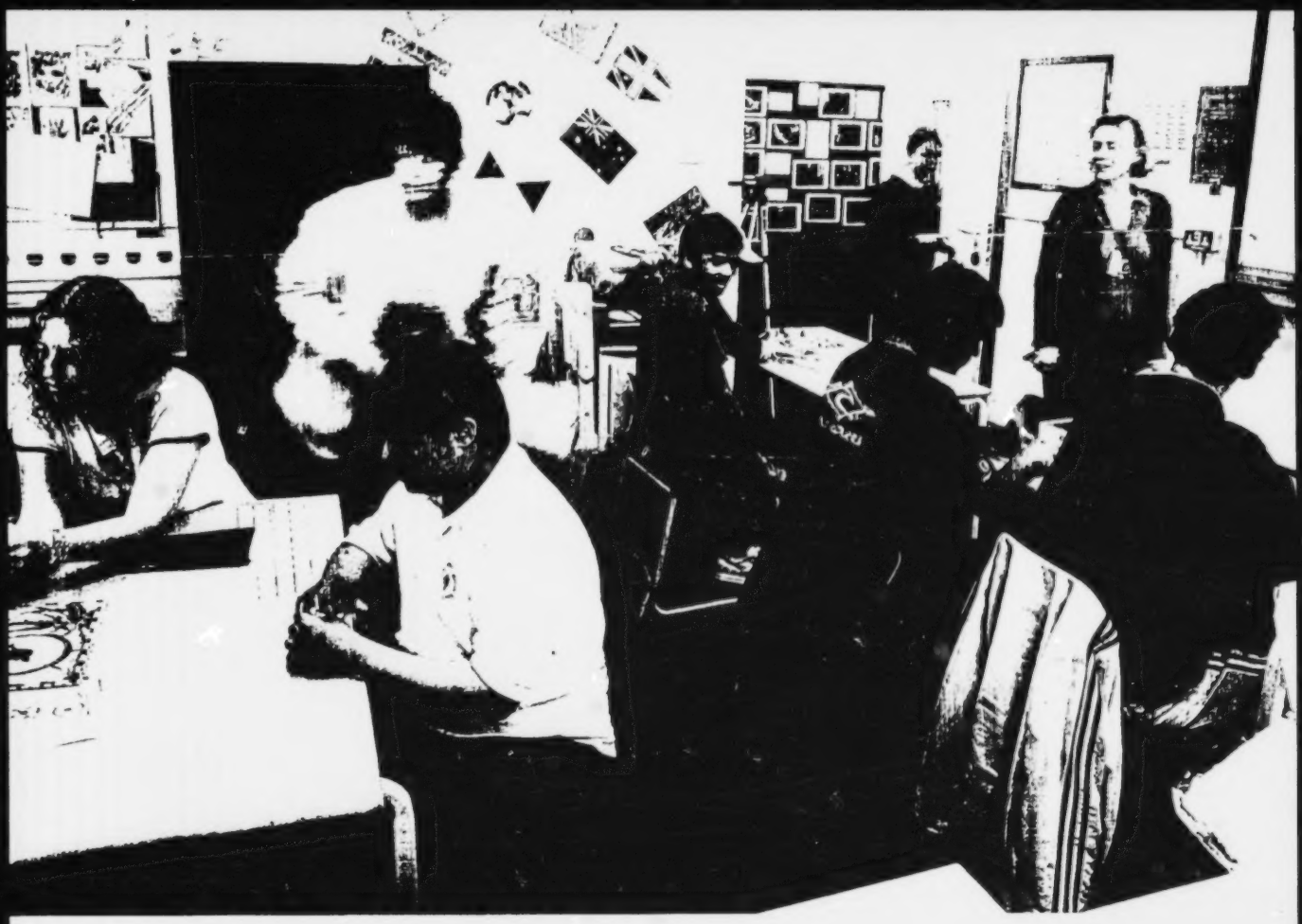

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BRAHM NORWICH

Edited by
Mark Vaughan and Sharon Rustemier

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The Centre's aims include the restructuring of mainstream schools to respond to pupil diversity and the gradual closure of all special schools. It bases this work on principles of human rights and social justice.

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Statistics for LEAs in England 1997–2001, pupils aged 5–15

PART 1 Special school placements

1 The national percentage of 5–15 year old pupils in special schools across England's 149 local education authorities (LEAs) fell from 1.39% (88,793 pupils) in 1997 to 1.32% (86,942 pupils) in 2001, continuing a trend of nearly 20 years. This reduction in segregation occurred despite a rising total school population across the country between 1997–2001, when a rise in special school pupil numbers might have been expected.

2 However, there were still wide variations across all LEAs. In 2001 the London Borough of **Newham** had the smallest percentage of pupils in special schools with 0.35% and **Manchester** had the highest with 2.64%.[1] A disabled pupil in **Manchester** was therefore more than seven times as likely to be placed in a special school in 2001 than a pupil in **Newham**. Similarly, a pupil in the inner London LEA of **Lambeth** with 2.48%, was more than six times as likely to be placed in a special school than a pupil in **Newham**, ten miles away.

3 The six LEAs with the smallest percentage of pupils in special schools in 2001 were **Newham** 0.35%, **Rutland** 0.43%, **Barnsley** 0.54%, **Calderdale** and **Cumbria** both 0.55% and **Nottinghamshire** 0.62%.

4 The six LEAs with the highest percentage of pupils in special schools in 2001 were **Manchester** 2.64%, **Reading** 2.53%, **Lambeth** 2.48%, **Knowsley** 2.4%, **Brighton & Hove** 2.36% and **Lewisham** 2.33%.

5 Of the 98 LEAS providing comparable data for 1997 and 2001, 41 LEAs showed a disturbing *rise* in their percentages of pupils placed in special schools over the five year period. 56 showed a fall in percentages and one showed no change.

6 This report does *not* take account of pupils segregated by being excluded for disciplinary reasons or those in Pupil Referral Units (PRUs); the figures are for those in special schools only. Comparable data was not available for PRUs and exclusions.

PART 2 Pupils with statements in special schools

7 The national percentage of pupils with statements in special schools fell from 41.09% in 1997 to 36.24% in 2001, also continuing a trend started nearly 20 years ago.

8 Wide variations still exist across English LEAs as to whether pupils with statements are included in the mainstream or segregated in special schools. In 2001, just 8.8% of pupils with statements in **Newham** were in special schools, while in **Liverpool** for the same year, it was 66.88%. This means that a pupil completing the statement process in **Liverpool** was more than seven times as likely to be placed in a special school than a pupil in **Newham**.

9 In 2001 the six LEAs with the lowest percentage of pupils with statements in special schools were **Newham** 8.8%, **Rutland** 12.75%, **Cornwall** 13.35%, **Barnsley** 14.1%, **Herefordshire** 16.32% and **Cumbria** 16.42%. **Barnsley**, **Calderdale**, **Cumbria** and **Newham** were in the lowest seven every year from 1997–2001, with fewer than 21% of pupils with statements in special schools throughout that period.

10 The six LEAs with the highest percentage of pupils with statements in special schools in 2001 were **Liverpool** 66.88%, **Manchester** 62.94%, **Southampton** 60.51%, **Trafford** 60.43%, **Dudley** 58.85% and **Nottingham** 58.68%. **Dudley** and **Manchester** were in the highest five LEAs for the whole of the five year period – both of them above 58% for that time.

[1] In this report, figures for the **City of London** LEA are of little statistical significance because of the extremely small numbers of pupils involved – three pupils in special schools in 1997, for example; therefore, although in 2001 this LEA had higher figures than **Manchester** in Part 1 and **Liverpool** in Part 2, it is left aside in this summary. References to the **City of London** are qualified in the commentary.

Introduction

This is the seventh analysis based on the official Department for Education and Skills (DfES) data of the following indicators for England:

1 the percentages of pupils aged 5–15 in special schools,

2 the percentages of pupils aged 5–15 with statements in special schools.

It follows earlier analyses conducted initially by Will Swann (Open University) between 1982 and 1991 and from 1992 onwards by Brahm Norwich.

The latest analysis overlaps with the sixth analysis, which covered the years 1996 to 1998. That report, published by CSIE in 1999, was withdrawn after it was discovered that data provided by the Government about exports and imports to special schools between LEAs was inaccurate. Since then the DfES has provided new data for 1997–2001, which has been checked for accuracy by the Department and by the author, and this has allowed the monitoring of trends to be re-started.

A range of local government reorganisation took place during the period under review (1997–2001) and this is summarised in Appendix 2 on page 30.

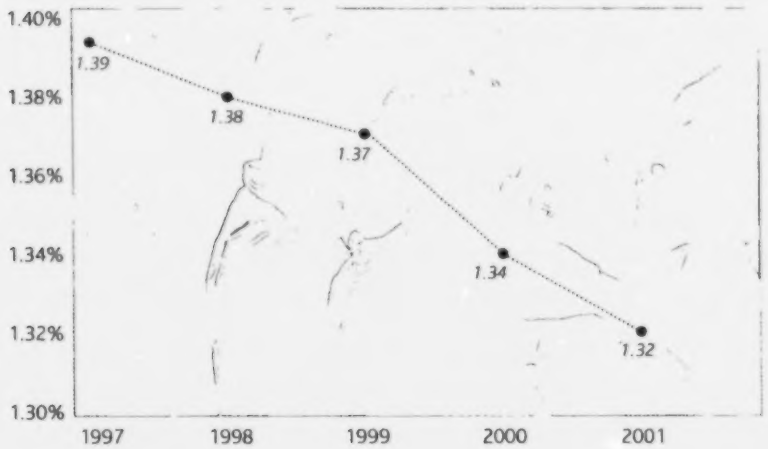
PART 1 Percentages of pupils in special schools

This first section looks at the national picture of how LEAs place pupils in special schools. The national and local percentages show what proportion of pupils aged 5–15 out of the total school population are in special schools. This gives an indication of the progress with the development of inclusion across England.

A continuing decrease in special school placements

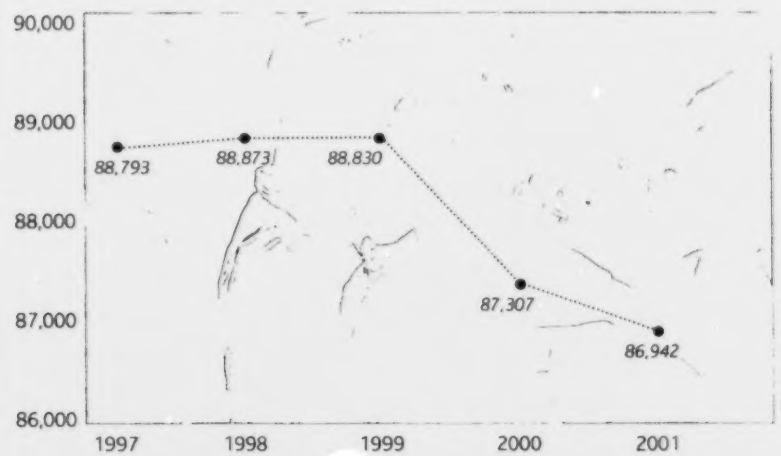
The average percentage of pupils aged 5–15 in special schools in England has continued to fall over the five years 1997–2001. In 1997 it was 1.39% and in 2001 1.32% (see Graph 1 below).

Graph 1 *Percentage of pupils aged 5–15 in special schools in England, 1997–2001*



The 0.07% decrease from 1997 to 2001 represents a decrease of 1,851 special school placements from 88,793 in 1997 to 86,942 in 2001. This is illustrated in Graph 2 below.

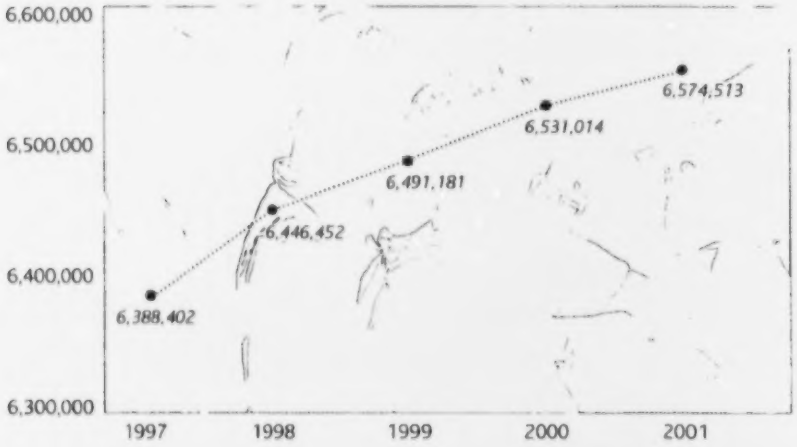
Graph 2 *Number of pupils aged 5–15 in special schools in England, 1997–2001*



This decrease in special school placements occurred despite a rising total school population across the country (see Graph 3 below). It might have been expected that the numbers in special schools would rise at the same rate as the total school population, but they fell, which reveals a modest trend towards inclusion.

However, the figures do not take account of pupils who are excluded for disciplinary reasons or those in Pupil Referral Units (PRUs) because comparable data was not available for these areas.

Graph 3 *Total number of pupils aged 5–15 in schools in England, 1997–2001*



See *Data for Part 1* on page 13 for the breakdown of percentage placements in special schools across LEAs.

The Data also shows that while there has been a fall in the overall percentage of pupils placed in special schools from 1997 (1.39%) to 2001 (1.32%), this conceals *increases* in special school placements in 41 out of 98 LEAs[2] in England over the same period.

LEA variations

Leaving aside the **City of London** because of the extremely small numbers involved[3], **Manchester** had the highest percentage of pupils in special schools in 2001 with 2.64% and the London Borough of **Newham** had the smallest percentage with 0.35%. A disabled pupil was therefore more than seven times as likely to be placed in a special school in **Manchester** than a pupil in **Newham**. Similarly, a pupil in the inner London LEA of **Lambeth** with 2.48% was more than six times as likely to be placed in a special school than a child in **Newham**, ten miles away.

Tables 1 and 2 show the top 20 LEAs with the lowest and highest percentages of pupils aged 5–15 in special schools.

[2] Out of the 149 English LEAs, 98 provided comparable data for 1997 and 2001 to allow this particular calculation.

[3] Figures for the **City of London** are of little statistical significance because of the extremely small numbers of pupils involved – three pupils in special schools in 1997, for example; therefore, although this LEA had a higher figure than **Manchester** in Table 2 on page 9 in 2001, it is not counted here.

8

Low percentages in special schools – Table 1

Four of the LEAs with the lowest percentage of pupils in special schools were in the lowest five LEAs for the period 1997–2001 – **Barnsley**, **Calderdale**, **Cumbria** and **Newham**. **Cumbria** had the lowest percentage in 1997 and 1998 (0.39% and 0.42% respectively). However, this position was taken by **Newham** in 1999 (0.39%), 2000 (0.33%) and 2001 (0.35%).

There were no inner London LEAs in the lowest 20 LEAs for 1997–2001 compared to three outer London LEAs which were consistently in the lowest 20 over the five years – **Newham**, **Havering** and **Harrow**.

Two new unitary LEAs were in the lowest 20 in each of the five years – **East Riding** and **North East Lincolnshire**. **South Gloucestershire** and **Rutland** were in the lowest 20 for four of the five years. **Nottingham City** and **Herefordshire** were in the lowest 20 for each of the three years they had been in existence.

One authority had below the 0.5% mark in 1997 and two in 1998; this increased to three in 1999 and was two in 2000 and 2001.

Table 1 *LEAs with the lowest percentage of pupils aged 5–15 in special schools, 1997–2001*

	1997	*%*	*1998*	*%*	*1999*	*%*	*2000*	*%*	*2001*	*%*
1	Cumbria	0.39	Cumbria	0.42	Newham	0.39	Newham	0.33	Newham	0.35
2	Barnsley	0.52	Newham	0.43	Herefordshire	0.41	Herefordshire	0.41	Rutland	0.43
3	Calderdale	0.53	Barnsley	0.54	Cumbria	0.49	Cumbria	0.52	Barnsley	0.54
4	Newham	0.56	Calderdale	0.55	Barnsley	0.53	Barnsley	0.54	Calderdale	0.55
5	E Riding	0.61	E Riding	0.63	Calderdale	0.56	Calderdale	0.56	Cumbria	0.55
6	Cornwall	0.67	Cornwall	0.68	E Riding	0.60	Rutland	0.56	Nottinghamshire[2]	0.62
7	Nottinghamshire[1]	0.72	Nottinghamshire[1]	0.71	Nottinghamshire[2]	0.63	E Riding	0.61	E Riding	0.63
8	Havering	0.79	Havering	0.75	Cornwall	0.70	Nottinghamshire[2]	0.61	Herefordshire	0.65
9	Bradford	0.83	Leicestershire[2]	0.78	Havering	0.74	Cornwall	0.67	Havering	0.68
10	N E Lincolnshire	0.84	Harrow	0.79	Leicestershire[2]	0.75	Havering	0.68	Cornwall	0.71
11	Harrow	0.86	Derbyshire[2]	0.82	Shropshire[2]	0.75	Shropshire[2]	0.74	Nottingham City	0.77
12	Leicestershire[1]	0.90	Bradford	0.84	Nottingham City	0.77	Nottingham City	0.76	Leicestershire[2]	0.78
13	Leeds	0.91	Leeds	0.89	Leeds	0.83	Leicestershire[2]	0.79	Leeds	0.81
14	N Yorkshire	0.92	N E Lincolnshire	0.90	Derbyshire[2]	0.84	Derbyshire[2]	0.83	Shropshire[2]	0.83
15	Oldham	0.92	Rutland	0.92	Harrow	0.85	Leeds	0.83	Derbyshire[2]	0.84
16	Derbyshire[1]	0.93	N Yorkshire	0.93	Rutland	0.87	Bradford	0.85	N Yorkshire	0.88
17	S Gloucestershire	0.93	Oldham	0.94	Bradford	0.88	Bury	0.86	Harrow	0.89
18	Shropshire[1]	0.97	S Gloucestershire	0.94	N E Lincolnshire	0.90	N E Lincolnshire	0.87	S Gloucestershire	0.90
19	Suffolk	0.97	Suffolk	0.96	S Gloucestershire	0.91	Suffolk	0.87	Suffolk	0.91
20	N Lincolnshire	1.02	Bury	0.97	N Yorkshire	0.94	Harrow	0.89	N E Lincolnshire	0.92

[1] denotes LEA before reorganisation and [2] denotes LEA after reorganisation

High percentages in special schools – Table 2

Wandsworth had the highest percentage of pupils in special schools in 1997 (2.74%)[4] and in 1998 (2.7%). In 2000 and 2001 **Wandsworth** moved out of the top five into the top ten LEAs with the highest percentages. **Manchester** and **Knowsley** were in the top five LEAs in all five years; **Lambeth** was in the top five for 1998-2001. **Reading**, a new unitary LEA, had the highest percentage in 1999 and was also in the top five LEAs in 2000 and 2001. **Hackney**, which was in the top five LEAs in 1997 moved away from the highest segregating LEAs in 1999 and 2000 and then ranked 14th in 2001. The **City of London** had high percentages in 1997, 1999, 2000 and 2001; however, as stated earlier, these reflect very low numbers in special schools and are of little significance in the national picture.

Inner London LEAs were represented consistently in the LEAs with the highest percentages of pupils in special schools over the five years (eight in three years and seven in two years) compared to only one outer London LEA, **Ealing**, at 19th in 1998, 20th in 2000 and 18th in 2001. In the whole of London in 2001, **Lambeth** was the LEA with the highest percentage in special schools (2.48%), while in Table 1, **Newham** had the lowest percentage (0.35%); thus, a disabled pupil in **Lambeth** was more than seven times as likely to go to a special school than a disabled pupil in **Newham**.

Metropolitan LEAs were also represented consistently in the LEAs with the highest percentage of pupils in special schools over the five years (at least

[4] Again, figures for the **City of London** are of little statistical significance because of the extremely small numbers. Therefore, although this LEA had a higher figure than **Wandsworth** in Table 2 in 1997, it is not counted here.

Table 2 *LEAs with the highest percentage of pupils aged 5–15 in special schools, 1997–2001*

	1997	%	*1998*	%	*1999*	%	*2000*	%	*2001*	%
1	City of London	3.45	Wandsworth	2.70	Reading	2.88	City of London	2.99	City of London	4.52
2	Wandsworth	2.74	Lambeth	2.55	Lambeth	2.50	Lambeth	2.65	Manchester	2.64
3	Knowsley	2.53	Knowsley	2.45	Manchester	2.48	Reading	2.60	Reading	2.53
4	Manchester	2.45	Lewisham	2.40	Wandsworth	2.48	Manchester	2.53	Lambeth	2.48
5	Hackney	2.43	Manchester	2.40	Knowsley	2.45	Knowsley	2.46	Knowsley	2.40
6	Lambeth	2.40	Brighton & Hove	2.35	Lewisham	2.39	Wandsworth	2.30	Brighton & Hove	2.36
7	Greenwich	2.35	Greenwich	2.29	City of London	2.30	Brighton & Hove	2.20	Lewisham	2.33
8	Westminster	2.20	Hackney	2.24	Brighton & Hove	2.23	Lewisham	2.18	Wandsworth	2.19
9	Middlesborough	2.18	Milton Keynes	2.03	Greenwich	2.16	Greenwich	2.09	Greenwich	2.04
10	Lewisham	2.16	Middlesborough	2.02	Bristol	2.14	Hackney	2.06	Wirral	2.04
11	Bristol	2.06	St Helens	2.02	Hackney	2.14	Westminster	2.02	S Tyneside	1.97
12	St Helens	2.02	Liverpool	1.98	Middlesborough	2.09	Middlesborough	2.00	Middlesborough	1.94
13	Wigan	2.02	Bristol	1.96	St Helens	2.02	Wirral	1.98	Hackney	1.90
14	Liverpool	2.00	Kensington & Chelsea	1.96	Milton Keynes	2.00	St Helens	1.95	Westminster	1.90
15	Salford	1.93	Westminster	1.96	Liverpool	1.98	Bristol	1.92	Trafford	1.85
16	E Sussex[1]	1.92	Wigan	1.93	Westminster	1.93	S Tyneside	1.90	Hammer./Fulham	1.83
17	Kensington & Chelsea	1.91	Salford	1.92	S Tyneside	1.91	Liverpool	1.88	Liverpool	1.83
18	Wirral	1.90	S Tyneside	1.90	Wigan	1.90	Plymouth	1.87	Ealing	1.82
19	Newcastle/Tyne	1.89	Ealing	1.87	Wirral	1.86	Wigan	1.86	Wigan	1.82
20	S Tyneside	1.89	Luton	1.85	Tower Hamlets	1.86	Ealing	1.85	Halton	1.81
							Slough	1.85		

[1] denotes LEA before reorganisation

seven per year), unlike county authorities; only one 'shire' LEA, **East Sussex**, appears anywhere in Table 2 (1997). Several unitary LEAs were consistently represented in those with the highest percentages of pupils in special schools over this period – **Middlesborough** five times, **Brighton & Hove** and **Bristol** four times, **Reading** three times and **Milton Keynes** twice.

Fourteen LEAs had 2% or more of their pupils in special schools in 1997. This decreased to 11 in 1998 and then increased to 14 again in 1999. It then fell to 12 in 2000 and to 10 in 2001.

Changes between 1997 and 2001

Table 3 shows the top 20 LEAs with the largest *decreases* in the percentages of pupils in special schools, comparing each year with the previous year. Behind Table 3 and Table 4 (on page 12), which shows the largest *increases*, is an indication of the effect of the implementation of local authority policy.

LEAs showing significant decreases – Table 3

Eighteen LEAs were in the top 20 in Table 3 on more than one occasion over this period. Three authorities, **Bristol**, **Hackney** and **Wandsworth**, showed three annual decreases in the Table. Five of the 18 LEAs with more than one decrease were inner London LEAs (**Hackney** 1997–98, 1998–99 and 2000–01, **Kensington & Chelsea** 1998–99 and 1999–2000, **Tower Hamlets** 1999–2000 and 2000–01, **Wandsworth** 1998–99, 1999–2000 and 2000–01, and **Westminster** 1997–98 and 2000–01); all five also appear in Table 2, the highest 20 LEAs for placing pupils in special schools. This indicates some high segregating LEAs making significant moves to reduce segregation.

Ten outer London LEAs were in the highest 20 in Table 3 during the five years. They were: 1997–98 **Harrow** and **Newham**; 1998–99 **Ealing**, **Haringey**, **Hillingdon**, **Sutton** and **Waltham Forest**; 1999–2000 **Barnet** and **Brent**; and 2000–01 **Redbridge**. Two further authorities, which are in the highest 20 LEAs for placing pupils in special schools in Table 2, also show more than one significant decrease in placements in Table 3 (**Newcastle upon Tyne** in 1998-99 and 1999–2000, and **Bristol** in 1997–98, 1999–2000 and 2000–01), again indicating some significant move to reduce segregation.

Table 3 *LEAs with the largest annual decreases in the percentage of their pupils aged 5–15 in special schools, 1997–2001*

Changes in percentages between the years

	1997–98		*1998–99*		*1999–2000*		*2000–01*	
1	City of London	–1.63	Salford	–0.28	Kensington & Chelsea	–0.31	Bristol	–0.21
2	Westminster	–0.24	Wandsworth	–0.22	Rutland	–0.31	Hartlepool	–0.21
3	Bury	–0.18	Darlington	–0.21	Newcastle/Tyne	–0.28	Southampton	–0.21
4	Hackney	–0.19	Kensington & Chelsea	–0.19	Poole	–0.28	Luton	–0.20
5	Hammersmith & Fulham	–0.17	York	–0.16	Reading	–0.28	St Helens	–0.20
6	Middlesborough	–0.16	Haringey	–0.15	Bournemouth	–0.27	Redbridge	–0.19
7	Sandwell	–0.14	Luton	–0.15	Hartlepool	–0.26	Isle of Wight	–0.17
8	Somerset	–0.14	Newcastle/Tyne	–0.14	Medway	–0.25	Lambeth	–0.17
9	Newham	–0.13	Greenwich	–0.13	Bristol	–0.22	Sandwell	–0.17
10	Tameside	–0.13	Hillingdon	–0.13	Lewisham	–0.21	Hackney	–0.16
11	Kingston/Hull	–0.11	Southampton	–0.13	Bury	–0.20	Solihull	–0.16
12	Solihull	–0.11	Brighton & Hove	–0.12	Milton Keynes	–0.20	Telford & Wrekin	–0.16
13	Stockport	–0.11	Sutton	–0.12	Thurrock	–0.18	Tower Hamlets	–0.15
14	Bristol	–0.10	Wakefield	–0.12	Wandsworth	–0.18	Blackburn with Darwen	–0.14
15	Southwark	–0.10	Gateshead	–0.11	Tameside	–0.16	Dorset[2]	–0.14
16	Wigan	–0.09	Ealing	–0.10	Brent	–0.15	Rutland	–0.13
17	Knowsley	–0.08	Hackney	–0.10	Gloucestershire	–0.15	Gloucestershire	–0.12
18	Harrow	–0.07	Waltham Forest	–0.09	Isle of Wight	–0.14	Milton Keynes	–0.12
19	Walsall	–0.07	Gloucestershire	–0.08	Barnet	–0.13	Westminster	–0.12
20	Wirral	–0.07	Sandwell	–0.08	Tower Hamlets	–0.13	Wakefield	–0.11
			Surrey	–0.08			Wandsworth	–0.11

[2] denotes LEA after reorganisation

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LEAs showing significant increases – Table 4

Table 4 shows those top 20 LEAs with the greatest increases in special school placements from year to year. Seventeen of them appear in the Table more than once over this period. The **City of London** showed three large increases but these have to be seen in the context of very low numbers in special schools. Four of these 17 LEAs showed three significant annual increases – **Hammersmith & Fulham**, **Kingston upon Thames**, **Manchester** (all three in 1998–99, 1999–2000 and 2000–01) and **Trafford** (1997–98, 1999–2000 and 2000–01). Eleven authorities had two annual increases and three of these were inner London LEAs (**Camden**, 1998–99 and 2000–01, **Lambeth**, 1997–98 and 1999–2000, and **Lewisham** 1997–98 and 2000–01); three were outer London LEAs (**Ealing** 1997–98 and 1999–2000, **Haringey** 1997–98 and 2000–01, and **Merton** 1997–98 and 2000–01).

Table 4 *LEAs with the largest annual increases in the percentage of their pupils aged 5–15 in special schools, 1997–2001*

Changes in percentages between the years

	1997–98		*1998–99*		*1999–2000*		*2000–01*	
1	Lewisham	0.24	City of London	0.48	City of London	0.69	City of London	1.53
2	Lambeth	0.15	Poole	0.21	Southwark	0.19	Herefordshire	0.24
3	Barnet	0.11	Bristol	0.18	Lambeth	0.15	Halton	0.21
4	Stockton on Tees	0.11	Hartlepool	0.18	Hammersmith & Fulham	0.14	Trafford	0.20
5	Hartlepool	0.10	Camden	0.17	Wirral	0.12	W Berkshire	0.20
6	Hereford & Worcester	0.10	Durham[2]	0.16	Hillingdon	0.10	Kingston/Thames	0.17
7	Ealing	0.09	Dudley	0.10	Rotherham	0.10	Brighton & Hove	0.16
8	Haringey	0.09	Hounslow	0.10	Trafford	0.09	Hammersmith & Fulham	0.16
9	Richmond/Thames	0.09	Bedfordshire[2]	0.09	Westminster	0.09	Bradford	0.15
10	Merton	0.08	Kingston/Thames	0.09	Bromley	0.08	Camden	0.15
11	Trafford	0.08	Staffordshire[2]	0.09	Darlington	0.08	Lewisham	0.15
12	Islington	0.07	Bury	0.08	Ealing	0.08	Southend on Sea	0.14
13	Kirklees	0.07	Manchester	0.08	Birmingham	0.07	Stoke on Trent	0.12
14	Northumberland	0.07	Tameside	0.08	Blackburn with Darwen	0.07	Haringey	0.11
15	Shropshire[1]	0.07	Cumbria	0.07	Kingston/Thames	0.06	Manchester	0.11
16	Tower Hamlets	0.07	Middlesborough	0.07	Plymouth	0.06	Medway	0.11
17	Isle of Wight	0.06	Harrow	0.06	Halton	0.05	Merton	0.11
18	N E Lincolnshire	0.06	Leicester	0.06	Kirklees	0.05	Bexley	0.10
19	Kensington & Chelsea	0.05	Hammersmith & Fulham	0.05	Manchester	0.05	Croydon	0.10
20	Waltham Forest	0.05	N Lincolnshire	0.05	Solihull	0.05	Durham[2]	0.10
			Stockport	0.05	Staffordshire[2]	0.05		
					Wolverhampton	0.05		

[1] denotes LEA before reorganisation and [2] denotes LEA after reorganisation

Percentage of pupils aged 5–15 belonging to each LEA in special schools, 1997–2001

						Changes in percentages between				
	1997	*1998*	*1999*	*2000*	*2001*	*97–98*	*98–99*	*99–00*	*00–01*	*Overall change*
England: 149 LEAs*	**1.39**	**1.38**	**1.37**	**1.34**	**1.32**	**–0.01**	**–0.01**	**–0.03**	**–0.02**	**–0.07**
Inner London: 13 LEAs										
Camden	1.24	1.24	1.41	1.38	1.53	0	0.17	–0.03	0.15	+0.29
City of London	3.45	1.82	2.30	2.99	4.52	–1.63	0.48	0.69	1.53	+1.07
Greenwich	2.35	2.29	2.16	2.09	2.04	–0.06	–0.13	–0.07	–0.05	–0.31
Hackney	2.43	2.24	2.14	2.06	1.90	–0.19	–0.10	–0.08	–0.16	–0.53
Hammesmith & Fulham	1.65	1.48	1.53	1.67	1.83	–0.17	0.05	0.14	0.16	+0.18
Islington	1.43	1.50	1.47	1.40	1.49	0.07	–0.02	–0.07	0.09	+0.06
Kensington & Chelsea	1.91	1.96	1.77	1.46	1.48	0.05	–0.19	–0.31	0.02	–0.43
Lambeth	2.40	2.55	2.50	2.65	2.48	0.15	–0.05	0.15	–0.17	+0.08
Lewisham	2.16	2.40	2.39	2.18	2.33	0.24	–0.01	–0.21	0.15	+0.17
Southwark	1.61	1.51	1.54	1.73	1.74	–0.10	0.04	0.19	0.01	+0.13
Tower Hamlets	1.75	1.82	1.86	1.73	1.58	0.07	0.03	–0.13	–0.15	–0.17
Wandsworth	2.74	2.70	2.48	2.30	2.19	–0.04	–0.22	–0.18	–0.11	–0.55
Westminster	2.20	1.96	1.93	2.02	1.90	–0.24	–0.03	0.09	–0.12	–0.30
Outer London: 20 LEAs										
Barking & Dagenham	1.04	1.06	1.00	0.95	0.99	0.02	–0.06	–0.05	0.04	–0.05
Barnet	1.11	1.21	1.19	1.06	1.15	0.11	–0.02	–0.13	0.09	+0.04
Bexley	1.29	1.29	1.34	1.30	1.40	0	0.04	–0.04	0.10	+0.11
Brent	1.54	1.53	1.55	1.40	1.49	–0.01	0.02	–0.15	0.09	–0.05
Bromley	1.21	1.21	1.19	1.27	1.27	0	–0.02	0.08	0	+0.06
Croydon	1.46	1.47	1.50	1.49	1.59	0.01	0.03	–0.01	0.10	+0.13
Ealing	1.78	1.87	1.77	1.85	1.82	0.09	–0.10	0.08	–0.03	+0.04
Enfield	1.39	1.43	1.44	1.39	1.41	0.04	0.01	–0.05	0.02	+0.02
Haringey	1.49	1.58	1.43	1.40	1.51	0.09	–0.15	–0.03	0.11	+0.02
Harrow	0.86	0.79	0.85	0.89	0.89	–0.07	0.06	0.04	0	+0.03
Havering	0.79	0.75	0.74	0.68	0.68	–0.04	–0.01	–0.06	0	–0.11
Hillingdon	1.82	1.81	1.68	1.78	1.71	–0.01	–0.13	0.10	–0.07	–0.11
Hounslow	1.43	1.46	1.56	1.50	1.52	0.03	0.10	–0.06	0.02	+0.09
Kingston upon Thames	1.31	1.30	1.39	1.45	1.62	–0.01	0.09	0.06	0.17	+0.31
Merton	1.57	1.65	1.63	1.56	1.67	0.08	–0.02	–0.07	0.11	+0.10
Newham	0.56	0.43	0.39	0.33	0.35	–0.13	–0.04	–0.06	0.02	–0.21
Redbridge	1.44	1.39	1.34	1.35	1.16	–0.05	–0.05	0.01	–0.19	–0.28
Richmond upon Thames	1.16	1.25	1.26	1.26	1.34	0.09	0.01	0	0.08	+0.18
Sutton	1.48	1.47	1.34	1.36	1.33	–0.01	–0.12	0.02	–0.03	–0.15
Waltham Forest	1.18	1.23	1.14	1.16	1.39	0.05	–0.09	0.02	0.23	+0.21
Metropolitan: 36 LEAs										
Barnsley	0.52	0.54	0.53	0.54	0.54	0.02	–0.01	0.01	0	+0.02
Birmingham	1.70	1.72	1.76	1.83	1.80	0.02	0.04	0.07	–0.03	+0.10
Bolton	1.14	1.16	1.11	1.03	1.07	0.01	–0.05	–0.08	0.04	–0.07
Bradford	0.83	0.84	0.88	0.85	1.00	0.01	0.04	–0.03	0.15	+0.17
Bury	1.15	0.97	1.06	0.86	0.95	–0.18	0.08	–0.20	0.09	–0.20
Calderdale	0.53	0.55	0.56	0.56	0.55	0	0.01	0	–0.01	+0.02
Coventry	1.78	1.78	1.78	1.78	1.79	0.01	0	0	0.01	+0.01

continues

14 *Percentage of pupils aged 5–15 belonging to each LEA in special schools, 1997–2001 (continued)*

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	Changes in percentages between 97–98	98–99	99–00	00–01	Overall change
England: 149 LEAs	**1.39**	**1.38**	**1.37**	**1.34**	**1.32**	**–0.01**	**–0.01**	**–0.03**	**–0.02**	**–0.07**
Metropolitan (continued)										
Doncaster	1.61	1.57	1.57	1.53	1.52	–0.04	0	–0.04	–0.01	–0.09
Dudley	1.63	1.66	1.76	1.64	1.59	0.03	0.10	–0.12	–0.05	–0.04
Gateshead	1.85	1.82	1.71	1.75	1.72	–0.03	–0.11	0.04	–0.03	–0.13
Kirklees	1.16	1.23	1.20	1.25	1.22	0.07	–0.03	0.05	–0.03	+0.06
Knowsley	2.53	2.45	2.45	2.46	2.40	–0.08	0	0.01	–0.06	–0.13
Leeds	0.91	0.89	0.83	0.83	0.81	–0.02	–0.06	0	–0.02	–0.10
Liverpool	2.00	1.98	1.98	1.88	1.83	–0.02	0	–0.10	–0.05	–0.17
Manchester	2.45	2.40	2.48	2.53	2.64	–0.05	0.08	0.05	0.11	+0.19
Newcastle upon Tyne	1.89	1.84	1.70	1.42	1.41	–0.05	–0.14	–0.28	–0.01	–0.48
North Tyneside	1.78	1.73	1.74	1.73	1.70	–0.05	0.01	–0.01	–0.03	–0.08
Oldham	0.92	0.94	0.96	0.97	0.93	0.02	0.02	0.01	–0.04	+0.01
Rochdale	1.57	1.59	1.63	1.61	1.69	0.02	0.04	–0.02	0.08	+0.12
Rotherham	1.76	1.73	1.72	1.82	1.74	–0.03	–0.01	0.10	–0.08	–0.02
Salford	1.93	1.92	1.64	1.58	1.66	–0.01	–0.28	–0.06	0.08	–0.27
Sandwell	1.78	1.64	1.56	1.46	1.29	–0.14	–0.08	–0.10	–0.17	–0.49
Sefton	1.31	1.27	1.31	1.28	1.23	–0.04	0.04	–0.03	–0.05	–0.08
Sheffield	1.23	1.17	1.13	1.13	1.10	–0.06	–0.04	0	–0.03	–0.13
Solihull	1.24	1.13	1.07	1.12	0.96	–0.11	–0.06	0.05	–0.16	–0.28
South Tyneside	1.89	1.90	1.91	1.90	1.97	0.01	0.01	–0.01	0.07	+0.08
St Helens	2.02	2.02	2.02	1.95	1.75	0	0	–0.07	–0.20	–0.27
Stockport	1.23	1.12	1.17	1.18	1.16	–0.11	0.05	0.01	–0.02	–0.07
Sunderland	1.81	1.76	1.76	1.68	1.59	–0.05	0	–0.08	–0.09	–0.22
Tameside	1.46	1.34	1.42	1.26	1.30	–0.13	0.08	–0.16	0.04	–0.16
Trafford	1.47	1.55	1.56	1.65	1.85	0.08	0.01	0.09	0.20	+0.38
Wakefield	1.60	1.58	1.46	1.35	1.24	–0.02	–0.12	–0.11	–0.11	–0.36
Walsall	1.21	1.14	1.09	1.09	1.04	–0.07	–0.05	0	–0.05	–0.17
Wigan	2.02	1.93	1.90	1.86	1.82	–0.09	–0.03	–0.04	–0.04	–0.20
Wirral	1.90	1.83	1.86	1.98	2.04	–0.07	0.03	0.12	0.06	+0.14
Wolverhampton	1.49	1.51	1.46	1.51	1.59	0.02	–0.05	0.05	0.08	+0.10
County: 34 LEAs										
Bedfordshire[1]	1.43									
Bedfordshire[2]		1.34	1.43	1.44	1.49		0.09	0.01	0.05	
Berkshire*	1.62	1.58				–0.04				
Buckinghamshire[1]	1.88									
Buckinghamshire[2]		1.72	1.74	1.74	1.70		0.02	0	–0.04	
Cambridgeshire[1]	1.31	1.26				–0.05				
Cambridgeshire[2]			1.33	1.37	1.35			0.04	–0.02	
Cheshire[1]	1.04	1.08				0.04				
Cheshire[2]			0.99	0.98	0.99			–0.01	0.01	
Cornwall	0.67	0.68	0.70	0.67	0.71	0.01	0.02	–0.03	0.04	+0.04
Cumbria	0.39	0.42	0.49	0.52	0.55	0.03	0.07	0.03	0.03	+0.16
Derbyshire[1]	0.93									
Derbyshire[2]		0.82	0.84	0.83	0.84		0.02	–0.01	0.01	
Devon[1]	1.48	1.50				0.02				
Devon[2]			1.26	1.20	1.10			–0.06	–0.10	

continues

Percentage of pupils aged 5–15 belonging to each LEA in special schools, 1997–2001 (continued)

						Changes in percentages between				
	1997	*1998*	*1999*	*2000*	*2001*	*97–98*	*98–99*	*99–00*	*00–01*	*Overall change*
England: 149 LEAs	**1.39**	**1.38**	**1.37**	**1.34**	**1.32**	**–0.01**	**–0.01**	**–0.03**	**–0.02**	**–0.07**
County (continued)										
Dorset[1]	1.44									
Dorset[2]		1.47	1.44	1.46	1.32		–0.03	0.02	–0.14	
Durham[1]	1.48									
Durham[2]		1.53	1.69	1.67	1.77		0.16	–0.02	0.10	
East Sussex[1]	1.92									
East Sussex[2]		1.72	1.65	1.55	1.52		–0.07	–0.10	–0.03	
Essex[1]	1.28	1.25				–0.02				
Essex[2]			1.11	1.09	1.05			–0.02	–0.04	
Gloucestershire	1.67	1.61	1.53	1.38	1.26	–0.06	–0.08	–0.15	–0.12	–0.41
Hampshire[1]	1.60									
Hampshire[2]		1.48	1.49	1.46	1.44		0.01	–0.03	–0.02	
Hereford & Worcester*	1.26	1.36				0.10				
Hertfordshire	1.50	1.48	1.47	1.40	1.38	–0.02	–0.01	–0.07	–0.02	–0.12
Kent[1]	1.34	1.32				–0.02				
Kent[2]			1.37	1.40	1.41			0.03	0.01	
Lancashire[1]	1.52	1.53				0.01				
Lancashire[2]			1.48	1.48	1.47			0	–0.01	
Leicestershire[1]	0.90									
Leicestershire[2]		0.78	0.75	0.79	0.78		–0.03	0.04	–0.01	
Lincolnshire	1.38	1.35	1.33	1.28	1.25	–0.03	–0.02	–0.05	–0.03	–0.13
Norfolk	1.07	1.06	1.05	1.00	1.00	–0.01	–0.01	–0.05	0	–0.07
North Yorkshire	0.92	0.93	0.94	0.90	0.88	0.01	0.01	–0.04	–0.02	–0.04
Northamptonshire	1.13	1.13	1.13	1.13	1.13	0	0	0	0	0
Northumberland	1.37	1.44	1.44	1.46	1.42	0.07	0	0.02	–0.04	+0.05
Nottinghamshire[1]	0.72	0.71				–0.01				
Nottinghamshire[2]			0.63	0.61	0.62			–0.02	0.01	
Oxfordshire	1.14	1.14	1.18	1.17	1.17	0	0.04	–0.01	0	+0.03
Shropshire[1]	0.97	1.04				0.07				
Shropshire[2]			0.75	0.74	0.83			–0.01	0.09	
Somerset	1.33	1.19	1.13	1.01	0.95	–0.14	–0.06	–0.12	–0.06	–0.38
Staffordshire[1]	1.47									
Staffordshire[2]		1.38	1.47	1.52	1.52		0.09	0.05	0	
Suffolk	0.97	0.96	0.98	0.87	0.91	–0.01	0.02	–0.11	0.04	–0.06
Surrey	1.67	1.61	1.53	1.47	1.47	–0.06	–0.08	–0.06	0	–0.20
Warwickshire	1.41	1.38	1.40	1.30	1.29	–0.03	0.02	–0.10	–0.01	–0.12
West Sussex	1.64	1.60	1.59	1.62	1.59	–0.04	–0.01	0.03	–0.03	–0.05
Wiltshire[1]	1.32									
Wiltshire[2]		1.00	0.99	0.92	0.97		–0.01	–0.07	0.05	
Worcestershire			1.62	1.59	1.58			–0.03	–0.01	
Unitary: 46 LEAs										
Bath & N E Somerset	1.33	1.29	1.30	1.25	1.31	–0.04	0.01	–0.05	0.06	–0.02
Blackburn with Darwen			1.72	1.79	1.65			0.07	–0.14	
Blackpool			1.52	1.56	1.48			0.04	–0.08	
Bournemouth		1.65	1.58	1.31	1.33		–0.07	–0.27	0.02	
Bracknell Forest			1.45	1.35	1.40			–0.10	0.05	

continues

16 *Percentage of pupils aged 5–15 belonging to each LEA in special schools, 1997–2001 (continued)*

						Changes in percentages between				
	1997	*1998*	*1999*	*2000*	*2001*	*97–98*	*98–99*	*99–00*	*00–01*	*Overall change*
England: 149 LEAs	**1.39**	**1.38**	**1.37**	**1.34**	**1.32**	**–0.01**	**–0.01**	**–0.03**	**–0.02**	**–0.07**
Unitary (continued)										
Brighton & Hove		2.35	2.23	2.20	2.36		–0.12	–0.03	0.16	
Bristol	2.06	1.96	2.14	1.92	1.71	–0.10	0.18	–0.22	–0.21	–0.35
Darlington		1.53	1.32	1.40	1.40		–0.21	0.08	0	
Derby		1.37	1.31	1.25	1.26		–0.06	–0.06	0.01	
East Riding	0.61	0.63	0.60	0.61	0.63	0.02	–0.02	0.01	0.02	+0.02
Halton			1.55	1.60	1.81			0.05	0.21	
Hartlepool	1.41	1.51	1.69	1.43	1.22	0.10	0.18	–0.26	–0.21	–0.19
Herefordshire			0.41	0.41	0.65			0	0.24	
Isle of Wight	1.63	1.69	1.71	1.57	1.40	0.06	0.02	–0.14	–0.17	–0.23
Kingston upon Hull	1.34	1.24	1.23	1.22	1.14	–0.11	–0.01	–0.01	–0.08	–0.20
Leicester		1.39	1.45	1.37	1.36		0.06	–0.08	–0.01	
Luton		1.85	1.70	1.59	1.39		–0.15	–0.11	–0.20	
Medway			1.15	0.90	1.01			–0.25	0.11	
Middlesborough	2.18	2.02	2.09	2.00	1.94	–0.16	0.07	–0.09	–0.06	–0.24
Milton Keynes		2.03	2.00	1.80	1.68		–0.03	–0.20	–0.12	
N E Lincolnshire	0.84	0.90	0.90	0.87	0.92	0.06	0	–0.03	0.05	+0.08
North Lincolnshire	1.02	0.99	1.04	1.02	1.07	–0.03	0.05	–0.02	0.05	+0.05
North Somerset	1.26	1.20	1.17	1.13	1.04	–0.06	–0.03	–0.04	–0.09	–0.22
Nottingham City			0.77	0.76	0.77			–0.01	0.01	
Peterborough			1.13	1.10	1.10			–0.03	0	
Plymouth			1.81	1.87	1.77			0.06	–0.10	
Poole		1.33	1.54	1.26	1.32		0.21	–0.28	0.06	
Portsmouth		1.73	1.68	1.58	1.54		–0.05	–0.10	–0.04	
Reading			2.88	2.60	2.53			–0.28	–0.07	
Redcar & Cleveland	1.16	1.12	1.14	1.09	1.02	–0.04	0.02	–0.05	–0.07	–0.14
Rutland		0.92	0.87	0.56	0.43		–0.05	–0.31	–0.13	
Slough			1.84	1.85	1.76			0.01	–0.09	
S Gloucestershire	0.93	0.94	0.91	0.92	0.90	0.01	–0.03	0.01	–0.02	–0.03
Southampton		1.76	1.63	1.59	1.38		–0.13	–0.04	–0.21	
Southend on Sea			1.39	1.34	1.48			–0.05	0.14	
Stockton on Tees	1.53	1.64	1.61	1.53	1.54	0.11	–0.03	–0.08	0.01	+0.01
Stoke on Trent		1.81	1.79	1.68	1.80		–0.02	–0.11	0.12	
Swindon		1.49	1.49	1.39	1.36		0	–0.10	–0.03	
Telford & Wrekin			1.58	1.54	1.38			–0.04	–0.16	
Thurrock			1.48	1.30	1.21			–0.18	–0.09	
Torbay			1.66	1.64	1.65			–0.02	0.01	
Warrington			1.20	1.12	1.15			–0.08	0.03	
West Berkshire			1.20	1.12	1.32			–0.08	0.20	
Windsor & Maidenhead			1.22	1.16	1.18			–0.06	0.02	
Wokingham			1.16	1.11	1.04			–0.05	–0.07	
York	1.43	1.41	1.25	1.29	1.25	–0.02	–0.16	0.04	–0.04	–0.18
England: 149 LEAs	**1.39**	**1.38**	**1.37**	**1.34**	**1.32**	**–0.01**	**–0.01**	**–0.03**	**–0.02**	**–0.07**

* The total figure of 149 LEAs does not include Berkshire and Hereford & Worcester, which no longer exist.

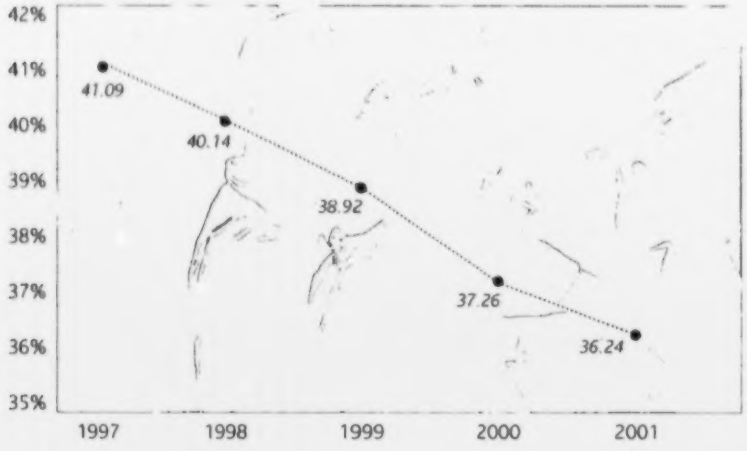
[1] denotes LEA before reorganisation and [2] denotes LEA after reorganisation

PART 2 Percentages of pupils with statements in special schools

All LEAs have some of their pupils with statements in mainstream schools and some in special schools. The variation in practice has always been controversial, given that all LEAs are responding to the same laws and Government policies. In 2001 for example, **Newham** had 8.8% of all pupils with statements in special schools, while in **Liverpool** the figure was 66.88%, more than seven times as great.

From 1997 to 2001 across England there has been a continuing decrease in the percentage of pupils with statements in special schools, from 41.09% to 36.24%, as shown in Graph 4 below. This decrease parallels the decrease in the percentage of pupils in special schools over this period. The percentage is calculated in terms of pupils with statements in special schools, not mainstream schools, because not all pupils with statements outside special schools are in mainstream schools. Some are in Pupil Referral Units, some in hospital schools and some in other provision organised by LEAs or parents; it was not possible to identify these pupils in the 5–15 age range from the DfES data.

Graph 4 *Percentage of pupils aged 5-15 with statements in special schools in England, 1997–2001*



LEA variations

Low percentages of pupils with statements in special schools – Table 5
Four of the LEAs in this group maintained a position in the lowest seven LEAs over the full five years – **Barnsley**, **Calderdale**, **Cumbria** and **Newham** (see Table 5 on page 18). **Cornwall** was in the top seven for only four years as there was missing data for one of the years (1999). With the reorganisation of LEAs, **Herefordshire** was the only new unitary LEA which had below 20% in three successive years from 1999–2001.

The number of LEAs with fewer than 20% of their pupils with statements in special schools increased from four in 1997 to eight in 2001 – **Newham** 8.8%, **Rutland** 12.75%, **Cornwall** 13.35%, **Barnsley** 14.1%, **Herefordshire** 16.32%, **Cumbria** 16.42%, **Calderdale** 16.53% and **Shropshire** 18.65%.

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The LEAs with the lowest percentage of pupils with statements in special schools were spread amongst different kinds of LEA across the period of this study. There were seven London LEAs in Table 5; of these seven, **Havering** and **Newham** appeared in all five years, **Harrow** four times and **Bromley** three times.

Table 5 *LEAs with the lowest percentage of pupils aged 5–15 with statements in special schools, 1997–2001*

	1997	%	*1998*	%	*1999*	%	*2000*	%	*2001*	%
1	Cumbria	10.39	Cumbria	10.10	Newham	11.02	Newham	8.45	Newham	8.80
2	Cornwall	13.10	Cornwall	13.06	Herefordshire	12.22	Herefordshire	10.62	Rutland	12.75
3	Barnsley	14.84	Newham	13.29	Cumbria	13.40	Cornwall	12.69	Cornwall	13.35
4	Newham	15.04	Barnsley	14.89	Barnsley	14.53	Barnsley	14.58	Barnsley	14.10
5	Calderdale	20.78	Calderdale	20.31	Shropshire[2]	15.87	Cumbria	14.89	Herefordshire	16.32
6	Shropshire[1]	21.49	Derbyshire[2]	20.40	Calderdale	20.35	Shropshire[2]	15.96	Cumbria	16.42
7	Norfolk	24.09	Harrow	21.89	Derbyshire[2]	21.24	Calderdale	17.51	Calderdale	16.53
8	Harrow	24.65	Havering	22.17	Leicestershire[2]	21.73	Rutland	17.73	Shropshire[2]	18.65
9	Leeds	24.71	Shropshire[1]	22.47	Leeds	22.05	Havering	20.43	Derbyshire[2]	20.34
10	Havering	24.97	Norfolk	23.71	Havering	22.42	Derbyshire[2]	20.80	Havering	21.55
11	Leicestershire[1]	25.95	Leicestershire[2]	23.87	Norfolk	24.80	Leeds	21.60	Leicestershire[2]	22.68
12	Derbyshire[1]	26.03	Leeds	26.47	Kirklees	25.36	Leicestershire[2]	22.81	Suffolk	22.88
13	Bromley	27.53	Suffolk	26.96	Harrow	25.50	Suffolk	23.64	Leeds	22.99
14	Kirklees	27.93	Kirklees	27.07	Suffolk	25.97	Medway	24.27	E Riding	24.25
15	Cheshire[1]	28.30	City of London	27.27	E Riding	26.05	Norfolk	24.32	Kirklees	24.58
16	Doncaster	28.51	Doncaster	27.69	Bromley	26.62	Kirklees	25.50	Norfolk	25.48
17	Bury	28.73	Bromley	28.36	Rutland	26.62	E Riding	25.66	N E Lincolnshire	25.60
18	Camden	29.18	Cheshire[1]	28.44	Barking & Dagenham	27.32	Bradford	25.67	Bury	25.79
19	E Riding	29.55	E Riding	28.95	Bradford	27.95	Barking & Dagenham	25.80	Harrow	26.64
20	Bradford	30.77	S Gloucestershire	29.38	S Gloucestershire	28.08	Bury	26.70	Leicester	26.65

[1] denotes LEA before reorganisation and [2] denotes LEA after reorganisation

High percentages of pupils with statements in special schools – Table 6

For the five year period, **Dudley** and **Manchester** remained in the top seven authorities with the highest percentage of pupils with statements in special schools, with 58% or more in each year. Seven further LEAs also appeared in all five years somewhere in the top 20 from 1997–2001 – **Coventry**, **Croydon**, **Nottinghamshire**, **Oldham**, **Rochdale**, **Trafford** and **Wandsworth**, all of them having above 52%.

Liverpool and **Redbridge** appeared in the top 20 for four years, and **Birmingham**, **Gateshead**, **Knowsley**, **Middlesborough** and **Nottingham** for three years.

In 2001 the five LEAs with more than 60% in special schools were **City of London** 88.89% (but see earlier qualifications on this LEA), **Liverpool** 66.88%, **Manchester** 62.94%, **Southampton** 60.51% and **Trafford** 60.43%.

The LEAs in Table 6 were mainly metropolitan LEAs in each of the five years of the study. Only one county LEA was represented consistently over this period – **Nottinghamshire** – before and after reorganisation. New unitary authorities were represented in this group of the highest 20 LEAs more towards the end of the period. There were 11 London LEAs in Table 6.

Table 6 *LEAs with the highest percentage of pupils aged 5–15 with statements in special schools, 1997–2001*

	1997	*%*	*1998*	*%*	*1999*	*%*	*2000*	*%*	*2001*	*%*
1	Sandwell	87.94	Manchester	74.58	Oldham	69.11	Dudley	67.73	City of London	88.89
2	Salford	85.00	Salford	73.66	Dudley	68.99	Liverpool	66.56	Liverpool	66.88
3	Manchester	76.26	Dudley	69.39	Manchester	65.96	Oldham	66.15	Manchester	62.94
4	Oldham	72.31	Oldham	67.07	Nottingham	64.39	Manchester	62.32	Southampton	60.51
5	Dudley	71.81	Sandwell	62.25	Liverpool	60.68	Knowsley	61.33	Trafford	60.43
6	Wandsworth	69.93	Wandsworth	60.94	Hartlepool	60.20	Middlesborough	61.14	Dudley	58.85
7	Coventry	64.57	Lewisham	60.57	Wandsworth	59.47	Trafford	59.48	Nottingham	58.68
8	Gateshead	64.36	Gateshead	60.53	Rochdale	58.57	Nottingham	59.42	Lewisham	58.46
9	Westminster	62.78	Coventry	60.48	Trafford	58.56	Southampton	58.71	Knowsley	58.19
10	Nottinghamshire[1]	61.94	Liverpool	60.06	Middlesborough	58.53	Nottinghamshire[2]	58.03	Oldham	57.90
11	Birmingham	60.73	Nottinghamshire[1]	60.04	Nottinghamshire[2]	58.39	Coventry	56.97	Nottinghamshire[2]	57.88
12	Trafford	60.72	Rochdale	60.00	Newcastle/Tyne	58.18	Redbridge	56.30	Southend on Sea	55.44
13	Ealing	60.59	Newcastle/Tyne	59.64	Lewisham	57.08	Wandsworth	55.66	Croydon	55.32
14	Rochdale	60.25	Redbridge	59.15	Coventry	57.02	Croydon	55.26	Brighton & Hove	54.43
15	Redbridge	59.90	Ealing	58.88	Croydon	56.88	Birmingham	54.32	Rochdale	53.81
16	Croydon	59.57	Kensington & Chelsea	58.01	Redbridge	56.61	Portsmouth	54.05	Wandsworth	53.77
17	Middlesborough	59.42	Croydon	56.95	Thurrock	56.34	Rochdale	53.85	Haringey	52.98
18	Knowsley	59.27	Birmingham	56.71	Gateshead	55.64	Solihull	52.93	Coventry	52.34
19	Lambeth	59.07	Trafford	55.82	Poole	55.08	Worcestershire	52.31	Hampshire[2]	52.07
20	Wirral	58.74	Bournemouth	55.00	Southend on Sea	55.08	Hackney	51.58	Portsmouth	51.62

[1] denotes LEA before reorganisation and [2] denotes LEA after reorganisation

Links between the percentage of pupils in special schools and the percentage of pupils with statements in special schools

By comparing LEAs in Table 1 (page 8) and Table 5 (page 18) for each year we find that between 13 and 16 of the 20 LEAs with the lowest percentage of pupils in special schools also had the lowest percentage of pupils with statements in special schools (13 in 1997 and 1998, 15 in 1999 and 16 in 2000 and 2001). Nine of these were in this position over the full five years (**Barnsley**, **Calderdale**, **Cumbria**, **Derbyshire**, **East Riding**, **Havering**, **Leeds**, **Leicestershire** and **Newham**). Similarly, by comparing LEAs in Table 2 (page 9) and Table 6 (page 19), we find that between five and eight of the 20 LEAs with the highest percentage of pupils in special schools also had the highest percentage of pupils with statements in special schools (eight in 1997, seven in 1998, five in 1999, six in 2000 and eight in 2001). **Wandsworth** and **Manchester** were in this position for all five years.

This shows the tendency for LEAs with high percentages of pupils in special schools to have a high percentage of their pupils with statements in special schools, and this is confirmed by a statistical measure of the correspondence between these two percentages in each of the five years in this study. There were no LEAs which had a high percentage of pupils in special schools and a low percentage of pupils with statements in special schools.

However, as Table 7 shows, **Nottinghamshire** before and after reorganisation had a nationally low percentage of pupils in special schools and a nationally high percentage of pupils with statements in special schools, reflecting its policy for resource allocation in mainstream schools without using statements. This policy was adopted and maintained by the new unitary LEA, **Nottingham City**, from reorganisation in April 1998. **Oldham** shared a similar pattern but only for 1997 and 1998.

Table 7 *LEAs showing low percentages of pupils in special schools and high percentages of pupils with statements in special schools*

	1997		*1998*		*1999*		*2000*		*2001*	
	% in special schools	% of statements in special schools	% in special schools	% of statements in special schools	% in special schools	% of statements in special schools	% in special schools	% of statements in special schools	% in special schools	% of statements in special schools
Nottinghamshire	0.72	61.95	0.71	60.04	0.63	58.39	0.61	58.39	0.62	57.88
Nottingham City					0.77	64.39	0.76	64.39	0.77	58.68
Oldham	0.92	72.31	0.94	67.07						
England	**1.39**	**41.09**	**1.38**	**40.14**	**1.37**	**38.92**	**1.34**	**37.26**	**1.32**	**36.24**

Percentage of pupils aged 5–15 with statements in special schools in each LEA, 1997–2001

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	Changes in percentages between 97–98	98–99	99–00	00–01	Overall change
England: 149 LEAs*	**41.09**	**40.14**	**38.92**	**37.26**	**36.24**	**–0.95**	**–1.12**	**–1.66**	**–1.02**	**–4.85**
Inner London: 13 LEAs										
Camden	29.18	29.81	31.36	32.84	36.80	0.62	1.55	1.48	3.96	+7.62
City of London	42.86	27.27	40.00	50.00	88.89	–15.58	12.73	10.00	38.89	+46.03
Greenwich	48.22	49.96	43.34	39.24	40.78	1.74	–6.62	–4.10	1.53	–7.44
Hackney	53.09	46.31	41.56	51.58	36.74	–6.78	–4.75	10.02	–14.84	–16.35
Hammersmith & Fulham	39.22	34.41	35.13	35.93	39.65	–4.81	0.72	0.80	3.72	+0.43
Islington	33.57	37.59	36.56	31.63	31.75	4.02	–1.04	–4.93	0.12	–1.82
Kensington & Chelsea	48.91	58.01	46.56	39.24	40.32	9.10	–11.44	–7.32	1.08	–8.59
Lambeth	59.07	53.32	43.99	41.00	37.93	–5.75	–9.33	–2.99	–3.07	–21.14
Lewisham	56.37	60.57	57.08	47.00	58.46	4.20	–3.49	–10.08	11.46	+2.09
Southwark	39.80	39.07	39.09	41.13	35.18	–0.73	0.02	2.04	–5.95	–4.62
Tower Hamlets	41.82	39.96	38.37	34.43	31.06	–1.87	–1.59	–3.94	–3.37	–10.76
Wandsworth	69.93	60.94	59.47	55.66	53.77	–8.99	–1.47	–3.81	–1.89	–16.16
Westminster	62.78	49.56	42.79	43.09	41.24	–13.22	–6.77	0.30	–1.85	–21.54
Outer London: 20 LEAs										
Barking & Dagenham	31.49	29.86	27.32	25.80	28.19	–1.63	–2.54	–1.52	2.39	–3.30
Barnet	38.36	40.99	45.45	37.15	32.39	2.63	4.46	–8.30	–4.76	–5.97
Bexley	44.74	44.41	43.43	41.00	41.06	–0.33	–0.98	–2.42	0.06	–3.68
Brent	44.26	38.24	34.83	31.74	33.46	–6.02	–3.41	–3.09	1.72	–10.80
Bromley	27.53	28.36	26.62	28.22	30.76	0.83	–1.74	1.60	2.54	+3.23
Croydon	59.57	56.95	56.88	55.26	55.32	–2.62	–0.07	–1.62	0.06	–4.25
Ealing	60.59	58.88	52.56	50.68	46.61	–1.71	–6.32	–1.88	–4.07	–13.98
Enfield	52.07	51.91	49.03	45.61	44.48	–0.16	–2.88	–3.42	–1.13	–7.59
Haringey	43.74	45.43	43.83	44.07	52.98	1.69	–1.60	0.24	8.91	+9.24
Harrow	24.65	21.89	25.50	26.74	26.64	–2.76	3.61	1.24	–0.10	+1.99
Havering	24.97	22.17	22.42	20.43	21.55	–2.80	0.25	–1.99	1.12	–3.42
Hillingdon	47.44	48.22	47.86	48.62	46.93	0.78	–0.36	0.76	–1.69	–0.51
Hounslow	41.81	39.54	40.50	38.89	38.22	–2.27	0.96	–1.61	–0.67	–3.59
Kingston upon Thames	40.47	39.06	42.08	44.36	49.91	–1.41	3.02	2.28	5.55	+9.44
Merton	44.23	40.46	39.01	36.88	37.97	–3.77	–1.45	–2.13	1.09	–6.26
Newham	15.04	13.29	11.02	8.45	8.80	–1.75	–2.27	–2.57	0.35	–6.24
Redbridge	59.90	59.15	56.61	56.30	45.90	–0.75	–2.54	–0.31	–10.40	–14.00
Richmond upon Thames	38.80	36.05	36.54	32.64	35.62	–2.75	0.49	–3.90	2.98	–3.18
Sutton	39.02	41.18	36.38	34.52	34.74	2.16	–4.80	–1.86	0.22	–4.28
Waltham Forest	47.77	47.14	40.59	34.40	34.70	–0.63	–6.55	–6.19	0.30	–13.07
Metropolitan: 36 LEAs										
Barnsley	14.84	14.89	14.53	14.58	14.10	0.05	–0.36	0.05	–0.48	–0.74
Birmingham	60.73	56.71	54.93	54.32	51.23	–4.02	–1.78	–0.61	–3.09	–9.50
Bolton	32.07	32.78	29.25	26.95	27.90	0.71	–3.53	–2.30	0.95	–4.17
Bradford	30.77	29.39	27.95	25.67	27.71	–1.38	–1.44	–2.28	2.04	–3.06
Bury	28.73	30.76	30.89	26.70	25.79	2.03	0.13	–4.19	–0.91	–2.94
Calderdale	20.78	20.31	20.35	17.51	16.53	–0.47	0.04	–2.84	–0.98	–4.25
Coventry	64.57	60.48	57.02	56.97	52.34	–4.09	–3.46	–0.05	–4.63	–12.23

continues

22 *Percentage of pupils aged 5–15 with statements in special schools in each LEA, 1997–2001 (continued)*

						Changes in percentages between				
	1997	*1998*	*1999*	*2000*	*2001*	*97–98*	*98–99*	*99–00*	*00–01*	*Overall change*
England: 149 LEAs	**41.09**	**40.14**	**38.92**	**37.26**	**36.24**	**–0.95**	**–1.12**	**–1.66**	**–1.02**	**–4.85**
Metropolitan (continued)										
Doncaster	28.51	27.69	33.82	31.14	31.97	–0.82	6.13	–2.68	0.83	+3.46
Dudley	71.81	69.39	68.99	67.73	58.85	–2.42	–0.40	–1.26	–8.88	–12.96
Gateshead	64.36	60.53	55.64	49.38	47.44	–3.83	–4.89	–6.26	–1.94	–16.92
Kirklees	27.93	27.07	25.36	25.50	24.58	–0.86	–1.71	0.14	–0.92	–3.35
Knowsley	59.27	54.09	52.86	61.33	58.19	–5.18	–1.23	8.47	–3.14	–1.08
Leeds	24.71	26.47	22.05	21.60	22.99	1.76	–4.42	–0.45	1.39	–1.72
Liverpool	54.75	60.06	60.68	66.56	66.88	5.31	0.62	5.88	0.32	+12.13
Manchester	76.26	74.58	65.96	62.32	62.94	–1.68	–8.62	–3.64	0.62	–13.32
Newcastle upon Tyne	58.44	59.64	58.18	46.59	47.54	1.20	–1.46	–11.59	0.95	–10.90
North Tyneside	49.84	50.06	54.97	47.54	45.72	0.22	4.91	–7.43	–1.82	–4.12
Oldham	72.31	67.07	69.11	66.15	57.90	–5.24	2.04	–2.96	–8.25	–14.41
Rochdale	60.25	60.00	58.57	53.85	53.81	–0.25	–1.43	–4.72	–0.04	–6.44
Rotherham	48.53	48.98	46.48	46.98	46.77	0.44	–2.50	0.50	–0.21	–1.76
Salford	85.00	73.66	54.17	48.10	48.84	–11.34	–19.49	–6.07	0.74	–36.16
Sandwell	87.94	62.25	54.94	46.57	37.73	–25.69	–7.31	–8.37	–8.84	–50.21
Sefton	38.00	38.16	38.00	35.25	35.51	0.16	–0.16	–2.75	0.26	–2.49
Sheffield	41.63	32.12	31.37	29.99	28.94	–9.51	–0.75	–1.38	–1.05	–12.69
Solihull	49.80	49.86	52.95	52.93	42.23	0.06	3.09	–0.02	–10.70	–7.57
South Tyneside	54.99	53.26	51.08	49.82	49.55	–1.73	–2.18	–1.26	–0.27	–5.44
St Helens	37.14	35.77	35.40	37.22	37.82	–1.37	–0.37	1.82	0.60	+0.68
Stockport	39.04	37.32	39.70	39.48	38.53	–1.72	2.38	–0.22	–0.95	–0.51
Sunderland	45.84	44.05	42.95	45.53	43.02	–1.79	–1.10	2.58	–2.51	–2.82
Tameside	45.22	44.70	42.14	36.34	35.86	–0.52	–2.56	–5.80	–0.48	–9.36
Trafford	60.72	55.82	58.56	59.48	60.43	–4.90	2.74	0.92	0.95	–0.29
Wakefield	45.19	42.71	39.92	39.65	39.20	–2.48	–2.79	–0.27	–0.45	–5.99
Walsall	38.02	34.21	32.23	32.05	31.26	–3.81	–1.98	–0.18	–0.79	–6.76
Wigan	45.43	43.18	39.71	36.44	34.27	–2.25	–3.47	–3.27	–2.17	–11.16
Wirral	58.74	46.18	45.20	46.62	44.14	–12.56	–0.98	1.42	–2.48	–14.60
Wolverhampton	48.24	47.03	44.79	ND	45.82	–1.21	–2.24			–2.42
County: 34 LEAs										
Bedfordshire[1]	42.86									
Bedfordshire[2]		44.39	44.80	42.14	40.97		0.41	–2.66	–1.16	
Berkshire*	45.24	43.94				–1.30				
Buckinghamshire[1]	46.83									
Buckinghamshire[2]		46.94	47.76	47.83	*46.59		0.82	0.07	–1.24	
Cambridgeshire[1]	37.69	33.31				–4.37				
Cambridgeshire[2]			33.78	33.48	32.91			–0.30	–0.57	
Cheshire[1]	28.30	28.44				0.14				
Cheshire[2]			28.25	29.02	28.04			0.77	–0.98	
Cornwall	13.10	13.06	ND	12.69	13.35	–0.04			0.66	+0.25
Cumbria	10.39	10.10	13.40	14.89	16.42	–0.29	3.30	1.49	1.53	+6.03
Derbyshire[1]	26.03									
Derbyshire[2]		20.40	21.24	20.80	20.34		0.84	–0.45	–0.46	
Devon[1]	38.36	37.44				–0.93				
Devon[2]			30.18	29.68	27.24			–0.50	–2.44	

continues

Percentage of pupils aged 5–15 with statements in special schools in each LEA, 1997–2001 (continued)

						Changes in percentages between				
	1997	*1998*	*1999*	*2000*	*2001*	*97–98*	*98–99*	*99–00*	*00–01*	*Overall change*
England: 149 LEAs	**41.09**	**40.14**	**38.92**	**37.26**	**36.24**	**–0.95**	**–1.12**	**–1.66**	**–1.02**	**–4.85**
County (continued)										
Dorset[1]	52.12									
Dorset[2]		44.92	41.98	40.92	33.65		–2.95	–1.06	–7.26	
Durham[1]	37.32									
Durham[2]		35.19	36.57	35.30	34.94		1.37	–1.27	–0.36	
East Sussex[1]	55.10									
East Sussex[2]		50.60	46.27	44.08	42.99		–4.33	–2.19	–1.09	
Essex[1]	51.22	48.82				–2.40				
Essex[2]			46.57	42.65	41.55			–3.92	–1.10	
Gloucestershire	48.16	46.94	45.08	39.76	35.82	–1.22	–1.86	–5.32	–3.94	–12.34
Hampshire[1]	51.62									
Hampshire[2]		48.67	51.78	51.31	52.07		3.12	–0.47	0.76	
Hereford & Worcester*	39.22	41.47				2.24				
Hertfordshire	42.80	41.60	44.47	45.66	48.05	–1.20	2.88	1.19	2.38	+5.25
Kent[1]	37.31	35.91				–1.41				
Kent[2]			36.48	34.78	34.85			–1.70	0.07	
Lancashire[1]	33.60	32.74				–0.86				
Lancashire[2]			32.01	31.87	32.93			–0.14	1.06	
Leicestershire[1]	25.95									
Leicestershire[2]		23.87	21.73	22.81	22.68		–2.14	1.08	–0.13	
Lincolnshire	33.83	33.99	35.57	34.20	33.37	0.16	1.58	–1.37	–0.83	–0.46
Norfolk	24.09	23.71	24.80	24.32	25.48	–0.38	1.09	–0.48	1.16	+1.39
North Yorkshire**										
Northamptonshire	37.73	36.24	34.49	33.37	32.84	–1.49	–1.75	–1.12	–0.53	–4.89
Northumberland	41.10	42.02	38.61	37.85	35.84	0.92	–3.41	–0.76	–1.99	–5.26
Nottinghamshire[1]	61.94	60.04				–1.90				
Nottinghamshire[2]			58.39	58.03	57.88			–0.36	–0.15	
Oxfordshire	40.40	38.76	38.56	37.11	36.35	–1.64	–0.20	–1.45	–0.76	–4.05
Shropshire[1]	21.49	22.47				0.98				
Shropshire[2]			15.87	15.96	18.65			0.09	2.69	
Somerset	38.95	34.96	34.23	31.97	31.36	–3.99	–0.73	–2.26	–0.61	–7.59
Staffordshire[1]	50.45									
Staffordshire[2]		ND	37.03	37.11	33.60			0.08	–3.51	
Suffolk	ND	26.96	25.97	23.64	22.88		–0.99	–2.33	–0.76	
Surrey	43.97	41.72	39.96	39.34	38.75	–2.25	–1.76	–0.62	–0.59	–5.22
Warwickshire	47.21	43.37	41.17	40.23	35.15	–3.84	–2.20	–0.94	–5.08	–12.06
West Sussex	45.52	41.93	42.72	40.76	40.27	–3.59	0.79	–1.96	–0.49	–5.25
Wiltshire[1]	41.43									
Wiltshire[2]		37.14	30.58	29.02	30.02		–6.56	–1.56	1.00	
Worcestershire			49.91	52.31	48.30			2.40	–4.01	
Unitary: 46 LEAs										
Bath & NE Somerset	40.85	39.88	38.39	36.89	38.43	–0.97	–1.49	–1.50	1.54	–2.42
Blackburn with Darwen			36.20	36.79	33.39			0.59	–3.40	
Blackpool			34.65	34.97	33.83			0.32	–1.14	
Bournemouth		55.00	44.14	35.12	36.87		–10.86	–9.02	1.75	
Bracknell Forest			35.98	38.30	33.95			2.32	–4.35	

continues

24 *Percentage of pupils aged 5–15 with statements in special schools in each LEA, 1997–2001 (continued)*

						Changes in percentages between				
	1997	*1998*	*1999*	*2000*	*2001*	*97–98*	*98–99*	*99–00*	*00–01*	*Overall change*
England: 149 LEAs	**41.09**	**40.14**	**38.92**	**37.26**	**36.24**	**–0.95**	**–1.12**	**–1.66**	**–1.02**	**–4.85**
Unitary (continued)										
Brighton & Hove		54.88	49.65	48.94	54.43		–5.23	–0.71	5.49	
Bristol	39.13	36.80	38.98	35.45	31.79	–2.33	2.18	–3.53	–3.66	–7.34
Darlington		39.21	34.81	36.53	37.77		–4.40	1.72	1.24	
Derby		35.06	31.09	29.74	30.74		–3.97	–1.35	1.00	
East Riding	29.55	28.95	26.05	25.66	24.25	–0.60	–2.90	–0.39	–1.41	–5.30
Halton			28.13	29.19	34.12			1.06	4.93	
Hartlepool	50.39	52.85	60.20	51.01	40.61	2.46	7.35	–9.19	–10.40	–9.78
Herefordshire			12.22	10.62	16.32			–1.60	5.70	
Isle of Wight	51.38	46.28	40.52	35.90	31.83	–5.10	–5.77	–4.62	–4.07	–19.55
Kingston upon Hull	44.65	41.80	42.78	42.55	41.86	–2.85	0.98	–0.23	–0.69	–2.79
Leicester		32.02	29.96	27.87	26.65		2.06	2.09	–1.22	
Luton		44.51	42.31	42.23	39.90		–2.20	–0.08	–2.33	
Medway			28.92	24.27	27.83			–4.65	3.56	
Middlesborough	59.42	52.03	58.53	61.14	48.48	–7.39	6.50	2.61	–12.66	–10.94
Milton Keynes		41.79	41.04	37.64	39.74		–0.75	–3.40	2.10	
N E Lincolnshire	32.76	31.91	30.25	26.72	25.60	–0.84	–1.67	–3.53	–1.12	–7.16
North Lincolnshire	40.14	38.01	32.50	30.21	29.45	–2.13	–5.52	–2.29	–0.76	–10.69
North Somerset	33.45	31.06	29.86	29.15	27.06	–2.39	–1.20	–0.70	–2.09	–6.39
Nottingham City			64.39	59.42	58.68			–4.97	–0.74	
Peterborough			29.29	28.48	28.20			–0.80	–0.28	
Plymouth			49.40	49.73	42.49			0.33	–7.24	
Poole		47.35	55.08	43.27	45.49		7.74	–11.80	2.23	
Portsmouth		54.84	53.79	54.05	51.62		–1.05	0.25	–2.42	
Reading			50.36	44.41	44.23			–5.95	–0.18	
Redcar & Cleveland	43.79	44.29	43.03	38.83	35.11	0.50	–1.26	–4.19	–3.73	–8.68
Rutland		ND	26.62	17.73	12.75			–8.89	–4.98	
Slough			42.11	42.90	41.80			0.79	–1.10	
S Gloucestershire	35.89	29.38	28.08	28.40	26.86	–6.50	–1.30	0.32	–1.54	–9.03
Southampton		51.76	53.61	58.71	60.51		1.85	5.10	1.80	
Southend on Sea			55.08	51.22	55.44			–3.86	4.22	
Stockton on Tees	46.95	46.96	46.27	44.11	44.07	0.01	–0.68	–2.16	–0.03	–2.88
Stoke on Trent		53.17	44.19	44.55	39.06		–8.97	0.36	–5.49	
Swindon		41.11	40.23	40.15	39.65		–0.89	–0.07	–0.51	
Telford and Wrekin			30.44	30.86	27.18			0.41	–3.68	
Thurrock			56.34	48.80	42.86			–7.54	–5.94	
Torbay			39.91	39.31	37.45			–0.60	–1.87	
Warrington			32.91	31.42	34.29			–1.49	2.87	
West Berkshire			37.31	31.60	35.74			–5.71	4.14	
Windsor & Maidenhead			36.82	36.61	33.51			–0.21	–3.10	
Wokingham			37.25	35.60	32.67			–1.64	–2.93	
York	43.19	41.85	37.17	36.63	34.72	–1.33	–4.69	–0.54	–1.92	–8.47
England: 149 LEAs	**41.09**	**40.14**	**38.92**	**37.26**	**36.24**	**–0.95**	**–1.12**	**–1.66**	**–1.02**	**–4.85**

* The total figure of 149 LEAs does not include Berkshire and Hereford & Worcester, which no longer exist.

** No information available for this authority

ND = no data available for these years

[1] denotes LEA before reorganisation and [2] denotes LEA after reorganisation

Conclusions

This study of pupils in special schools and pupils with statements in special schools in England continues the monitoring exercise which was started twenty years ago in 1982. Data has been provided for this study by the Department for Education and Skills (DfES) based on the annual census of schools and Forms 8A, 8B and SEN2. The DfES has provided the raw data and the calculated percentage data for special school placements. These have been based on the formulae used in previous studies for CSIE so that the latest trends can be monitored on the same basis.

The previous publication in 1999 was withdrawn when errors were found in the DfES data relating to LEAs' importing and exporting of pupils. The author and CSIE have been assured by the DfES that the data used in this study has been checked for accuracy. See Appendix 1 on page 28 for details of how the percentages were calculated and how data was checked and corrected in a few cases.

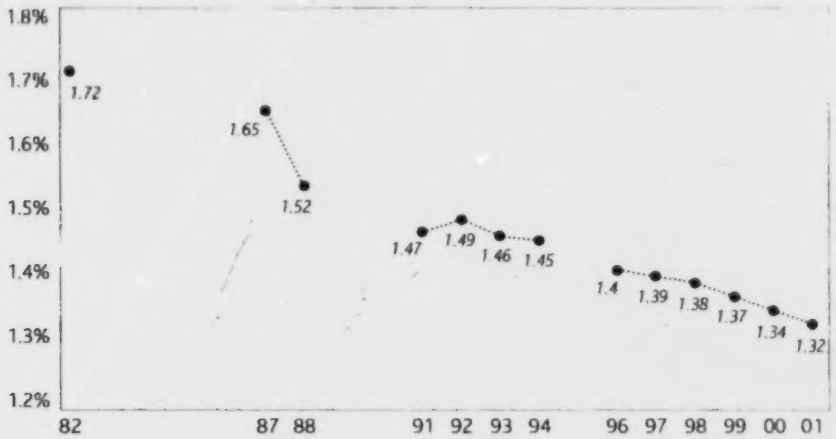
In setting out the two indicators in this report it is important to draw the reader's attention to the interpretation of this kind of 'league table'. LEA differences in these two indicators – special school placement and percentages of pupils with statements in special schools – can reflect many factors, some of which are not within the direct control of LEAs and schools. LEA areas differ in their incidence of social and economic disadvantage as well as their school policies and practices. LEAs differ in their policies on 'special educational needs', inclusion, special schooling and issuing statements.

However, all LEAs work within the same national legislative framework and the disturbing variations between LEAs across England leave significant cause for concern. The variations between LEAs add weight to the argument that more should be done by central and local government to unify the approach of all LEAs to the law and DfES guidance covering the education of disabled children. Put simply, is it fair to pupils and their families – and others – that in 2001 a disabled pupil in **Lambeth** was more than six times as likely to be segregated in a special school than a pupil in **Newham**, just ten miles away?

PART 1 Special school placements

This study shows that the overall percentage of pupils in special schools has continued to decrease over the five years from 1997 to 2001. One indicator of the development towards inclusion is fewer pupils in special schools and this report shows a continuing trend in this direction. The decrease of 0.07% (1.39% in 1997 to 1.32% in 2001) is the same decrease as in the previous five years (1.47% in 1991 to 1.4% in 1996) and represents a decrease of 0.15% over the ten years 1991–2001. However, compared to the larger decrease of 0.25% from 1982 (1.72%) to 1991 (1.47%), the rate of decrease in the 1990s is significantly slower than in the 1980s (see Graph 5).

Graph 5 *Percentage of pupils aged 5-15 in special schools in England*



The trend in the early 1990s has continued on to 2001, though it seems the Labour Government's positive policies towards greater inclusion since it came to power in 1997 have not yet had as marked an effect as was first anticipated.

It is crucial to clarify that the decreasing percentage of pupils in special schools over the period of this study and the continuing trend over 20 years is not about pupils who are excluded for disciplinary and behaviour difficulties or those in Pupil Referral Units (PRUs). It was not possible to collect comparable data for these areas and integrate them into the calculations for this report. Figures for this form of segregation and exclusion should in future be combined with the story told by the two main indicators in this report so that a more accurate picture of inclusion trends can be obtained.

Also of concern was this report's finding that 41 out of 98 LEAs had actually *increased* segregation of disabled pupils between 1997 and 2001. 56 decreased segregation and one showed no change. 51 of the 149 LEAs could not be included in this particular calculation because comparable data was not available due to local government reorganisation. However, it is likely that a number of those 51 had also increased their levels of segregation over the period.

The wide variations between LEAs in special school placements revealed that in 2001 a disabled pupil in **Manchester** was more than seven times as likely to be placed in a special school than a disabled pupil in **Newham**.

PART 2 Pupils with statements in special schools

This indicator represents the percentage of all pupils with statements who are in special schools. If a statement is issued to those with significant additional needs, then this indicator represents the balance in the placement of these pupils between special and mainstream schools, and other provision.

The study showed that 41.09% of pupils with statements in England in 1997 were in special schools and that this decreased steadily to 36.24% in 2001.

Again, there were considerable variations in this indicator between LEAs. Pupils with statements were more than seven times as likely to be in a special school in **Liverpool** as they were in **Newham**.

This decrease paralleled the decreasing percentage of pupils in special schools over this period reported in Part 1, and is consistent with the correlation between LEA percentages of pupils in special schools and pupils with statements in special schools.

This data can be interpreted as showing an increasing trend for pupils with statements to be in mainstream schools. However, as discussed earlier, not all pupils with statements outside special schools are in mainstream schools; some are in PRUs, some in hospital schools and some in other provision organised by LEAs or parents.

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Appendix 1

Method and data accuracy

Method used

The data and indicators presented in this report were derived from DfES information using the same formulae as in previous analyses. The data comes from the DfES annual census of schools and survey Forms 8A, 8B and SEN2. The indicators relate to the pupils who are the responsibility of each LEA and are only for pupils aged 5–15 years. They exclude those below 5 and older than 15 in schools.

PART 1 Percentage of pupils in special schools

An LEA's percentage of pupils in special schools was calculated by dividing the number of their pupils in special schools (numerator) by the total number of their pupils (denominator) and presenting this as a percentage.

The numerator and denominator were calculated as follows:

Pupils in special schools (numerator)

This is the number of special school pupils for whom the LEA is responsible and it includes the number of:

1 pupils aged 5–15 in maintained special schools
2 pupils belonging to the LEA sent to another LEA's maintained special school (exports)
3 pupils aged 5–15 belonging to the LEA in non-maintained special schools
4 pupils with statements aged 5–15 belonging to the LEA in independent schools (receiving special education)

From this total is taken away the number of pupils aged 5–15 belonging to another LEA in the LEA's maintained special schools (imports).

Total number of pupils (denominator)

This is the total number of pupils for whom the LEA is responsible and who attend maintained schools. It includes the number of:

1 pupils aged 5–15 in maintained primary, middle, secondary, special and Pupil Referral Units
2 pupils aged 5–15 who belong to the LEA sent to other LEAs' maintained primary, middle, secondary and Pupil Referral Units (exports)

From this total is taken away the number of pupils aged 5–15 belonging to another LEA in the LEA's maintained primary, middle secondary and Pupil Referral Units (imports).

PART 2 Percentage of pupils with statements in special schools

This is calculated by dividing the number of pupils aged 5–15 belonging to an LEA in special schools (numerator) by the total number of pupils belonging to the LEA with statements (denominator).

These are calculated as follows:

Number of pupils with statements in special schools
It was assumed that all pupils in special schools had statements, though it is known that a small minority are awaiting statements. This number was therefore taken to be the same as for pupils in special schools above.

Total number with statements
This figure was provided by the DfES (Form SEN2) and included pupils aged 5–15 with statements in mainstream and maintained, non-maintained special schools, independent schools, hospital schools, in PRUs and having other provision arranged by the LEA and/or parents.

Data quality

The DfES provided the data used in this study, having checked it for accuracy. There has been no opportunity nor resources to check the data with each LEA individually. However, the data has been checked in preparing this report by examining the year trends for each indicator for each LEA to identify unexpected increases or decreases. Several have been identified and in these few cases direct contact with the LEA has enabled the data to be corrected. Two examples of the kind of identified errors are as follows: an extra 0 inserted e.g. making 13 become 130, and double counting of pupils so inflating special school numbers. Where no significant deviations from LEA trends were identified, it was assumed that the provided data was accurate. There has also been some missing data for a few LEAs. This has been indicated in the LEA Data tables at the end of each of the two Parts.

Appendix 2

Details of LEA reorganisation between 1997 and 2001

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Between the 1997 and 1998 data collection the following county LEAs were reorganised into new unitary and new county LEAs:

Before reorganisation	*After reorganisation*	
County	**County**	**Unitary**
Bedfordshire	Bedfordshire	Luton
Buckinghamshire	Buckinghamshire	Milton Keynes
Derbyshire	Derbyshire	Derby City
Dorset	Dorset	Bournemouth
		Poole
Durham	Durham	Darlington
East Sussex	East Sussex	Brighton & Hove
Hampshire	Hampshire	Portsmouth
		Southampton
Leicestershire	Leicestershire	Leicester City
		Rutland
Staffordshire	Staffordshire	Stoke on Trent
Wiltshire	Wiltshire	Swindon

Between the 1998 and 1999 data collection the following county LEAs were reorganised into new unitary and new county LEAs:

Before reorganisation	*After reorganisation*	
County	**County**	**Unitary**
Berkshire		Bracknell Forest
		Reading
		Slough
		West Berkshire
		Windsor & Maidenhead
		Wokingham
Cambridgeshire	Cambridgeshire	Peterborough
Cheshire	Cheshire	Halton
		Warrington
Devon	Devon	Plymouth
		Torbay
Essex	Essex	Southend on Sea
		Thurrock
Hereford & Worcester	Worcestershire	Herefordshire
Kent	Kent	Medway
Lancashire	Lancashire	Blackburn with Darwen
		Blackpool
Nottinghamshire	Nottinghamshire	Nottingham City
Shropshire	Shropshire	Telford & Wrekin

LEA inclusion trends

The percentage of pupils in special schools in England fell from 1997 to 2001, continuing a trend in this direction of nearly 20 years, according to this report from CSIE.

It shows that the percentage of pupils with statements being placed in special schools by LEAs is also dropping.

However, wide and disturbing variations in LEA practice in both these areas still exist across England.

The report contains league tables for the highest and lowest performing authorities as well as detailed data for all 149 LEAs in England.

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